

S/N 09/304,444

Response to Office Action Dated 12/02/2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Previously, claims 1 and 3—19 were pending.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 11 and 15 are currently amended.

Claim 9, 10, 13 and 14 are canceled.

No claims are added.

Claims 3, 6, 8, 12, 16, 18 and 19 are original.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 3—8, 11—12, 15—19 are pending.

1. (Currently amended.) A system for porting user data from one computer to another, comprising:

~~a profile carrier, removably connectable to a computer, comprising:~~

——a memory device to store the user data;

——a smart card associated with a user that alternately enables access to the user data on the memory device when both the memory device and smart card are interfaced with a common computer and disables access to the user data when one of the memory device or smart card is absent; and

~~wherein the memory device stores a user's profile that can be used for computer configuration.~~

wherein the memory device stores a public key and the smart card stores a corresponding private key and access to the user data in the memory device is enabled upon verification that the public key and the private key are associated.

2. (Cancelled.)

S/N 09/304,444

Response to Office Action Dated 12/02/2004

1 3. (Original.) An assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the smart
2 card stores a passcode and access to the user data in the memory device is enabled
3 upon authentication of a user-supplied passcode to the passcode stored on the
4 smart card.

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6 4. (Currently amended.) An assembly as recited in claim 1, ~~wherein~~
7 ~~the memory device stores a public key and the smart card stores a corresponding~~
8 ~~private key and access to the user data in the memory device is enabled upon~~
9 ~~verification that the public key and the private key are associated.~~ wherein the
10 memory device stores a user's profile that can be used for computer configuration.

11
12 5. (Currently amended.) A profile carrier comprising:
13 a smart card to store a passcode and a private key from a private/public key
14 pair;

15 a memory device to store a user profile and a public key from the
16 private/public key pair;

17 wherein when the smart card and the memory device are interfaced with a
18 common computing unit, the smart card is configured to permit use of the private
19 key following validation of a user-entered passcode with the stored passcode and
20 to authenticate the public key stored on the memory device using the private key;
21 and

22 the profile carrier being configured to permit access to the user profile
23 stored on the memory device upon successful authentication of the public key at
24 the smart card.

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S/N 09/304,444

Response to Office Action Dated 12/02/2004

1 6. (Original.) A computer system, comprising:
2 a computing unit having a memory drive and a smart card reader; and
3 the profile carrier as recited in claim 5, wherein the memory device is
4 interfaced with the computing unit via the memory drive and the smart card is
5 interfaced with the computing unit via the smart card reader.

6
7 7. (Currently amended.) A computer system, comprising:
8 a computer having an interface; and
9 a profile carrier adapted to use the interface, the profile carrier comprising a
10 smart card associated with a user and a memory device having data memory to
11 store a user's profile, wherein the smart card alternately enables access to the
12 user's profile when present and disables access to the user's profile when ~~absent~~.
13 absent;

14 the smart card stores a first key;
15 the data memory stores a second key that is associated with the first key;
16 and
17 the smart card is configured to authenticate the second key from the data
18 memory using the first key as a condition for enabling access to the user data.

19
20 8. (Original.) A computer system as recited in claim 7, wherein the
21 smart card stores a passcode and is configured to authenticate a user-supplied
22 passcode entered into the computer as a condition for enabling access to the user
23 data.

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25 9. (Cancelled.)

S/N 09/304,444

Response to Office Action Dated 12/02/2004

1 10. (Cancelled.)

2
3 11. (Currently amended.) A computer system, comprising:

4 a computer having a memory drive and a card reader;

5 a portable profile carrier to port a user's profile for configuration of the
6 computer, the profile carrier comprising:

7 (a) an integrated circuit (IC) card associated with the user that can be
8 interfaced with the computer via the card reader; and

9 (b) a memory device to store the user's profile, the memory device
10 being interfaced with the computer via the memory drive, the IC card enabling
11 access to the user data on the memory device; and

12 wherein when the profile carrier is interfaced with the computer, the user's
13 profile is accessible to configure the ~~computer~~ computer;

14 wherein the IC card stores a passcode and a private key of a public/private
15 key pair;

16 wherein the memory device stores a public key of the public/private key
17 pair; and

18 wherein the IC card is configured to authenticate a user-supplied passcode
19 entered into the computer as a condition for enabling access to the private key and
20 to authenticate the public key passed in from the memory device using the private
21 key as a condition for enabling access to the user's profile.
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S/N 09/304,444

Response to Office Action Dated 12/02/2004

12. (Original.) A computer system as recited in claim 11, wherein the IC card stores a passcode and is configured to authenticate a user-supplied passcode entered into the computer as a condition for enabling access to the user's profile.

13. (Cancelled.)

14. (Cancelled.)

15. (Currently amended.) A method for porting a user profile for a computer, comprising:

storing a user profile in memory of a smart card secured profile carrier, the smart card secured profile carrier having a smart card that selectively enables access to the user profile in the memory;

interfacing the smart card secured profile carrier with the computer; and

reading the user profile from the memory for use in configuring the computer. computer; and

wherein the memory device stores a public key and the smart card stores a corresponding private key and access to the user data in the memory device is enabled upon verification that the public key and the private key are associated.

S/N 09/304,444

Response to Office Action Dated 12/02/2004

1 16. (Original.) A method as recited in claim 15, further comprising
2 interfacing the smart card secured profile carrier with a different second computer
3 and reading the user profile from the memory for use in configuring the second
4 computer.

5
6 17. (Previously presented.) A method comprising:
7 storing user data and a public key on a portable memory device;
8 storing a private key on a smart card;
9 interfacing the smart card and the portable memory device with a computer;
10 verifying compatibility of the public key and the private key; and
11 allowing, in response to the verified compatibility, access to the user data
12 on the portable memory device.

S/N 09/304,444

Response to Office Action Dated 12/02/2004

1 18. (Original.) A method comprising:
2 storing user data in a portable memory device;
3 storing a device-resident key in the memory device;
4 storing a card-resident key on the smart card, the card-resident key
5 corresponding to the device-resident key;
6 storing a passcode on the smart card;
7 interfacing the smart card with a computer;
8 interfacing the portable memory device with the computer;
9 receiving a user-entered passcode;
10 permitting use of the card-resident key following validation of the user-
11 entered passcode with the passcode stored on the smart card;
12 passing the device-resident key from the memory device to the smart card;
13 authenticating, at the smart card, the device-resident key using the card-
14 resident key; and
15 permitting access to the user data stored in the memory device upon
16 successful authentication of the device-resident key.
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S/N 09/304,444

Response to Office Action Dated 12/02/2004

1 19. (Original.) In a system having a computer and a smart card secured profile
2 carrier, the smart card secured profile carrier having memory to store a user profile
3 and a smart card separate from the memory, computer-readable media resident on
4 the profile carrier having executable instructions comprising:

5 receiving a user-supplied passcode from the computer;

6 authenticating the user-supplied passcode with a passcode stored on the
7 smart card;

8 enabling access to a private key on the smart card upon successful
9 authentication of the user-supplied passcode;

10 receiving a public key from the memory;

11 authenticating the public key using the private key; and

12 enabling access to the user profile in the memory upon successful
13 authentication of the public key.